

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference R-35	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/JP 03 /16921	International filing date (day/month/year) 26.12.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 27.12.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int.Cl. C22F 1/04, F28F 21/08		
Applicant SHOWA DENKO K.K.		

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> a total of _____ sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>	
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>	

Date of submission of the demand 31.05.2004	Date of completion of this report 25.11.2004	
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

- ☒ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☐ the description:
- pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the claims:
- pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the drawings:
- pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1 - 14	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	5 - 14	YES
	Claims	1 - 4	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1 - 14	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

The following documents have been considered for the purpose of this report.

D1:JP 2000-119784 A(SUMITOMO LIGHT METAL IND., CO.)2000.04.25
D2:JP 2002-348624 A(SUMITOMO LIGHT METAL IND., CO.)2002.12.04
D3:JP 11-172387 A(FURUKAWA ELECTRIC CO., LTD.)1999.06.29
D4:US 2001/0025676 A1(Kazuo TAGUCHI)2001.10.04
D5:JP 11-172388 A(FURUKAWA ELECTRIC CO., LTD.)1999.06.29
D6:Japan Light Metal Association; Handbook of Aluminum(5th ed.).1994,
page 11,25,31,273-275
D7:JP 2001-342532 A(FURUKAWA ELECTRIC CO., LTD.)2001.12.14

The subject matter of claim1 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of the D1 cited in the ISR.

The technical feature having an electrical conductivity of 30 to 43% IACS is not disclosed in D1. However, the person skilled in the art would easily establish the above feature by controlling amounts of solid solutions of Mn.

The subject matters of claim2-4 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of the D1 cited in the ISR.

The amounts of impurities in the claims2-4 is not special as inevitable impurities of the alloy.

The subject matters of claims5-10 are novel, since they are not disclosed in any of the prior art documents cited in the ISR.

In particular, the subject matter of the pipe blank heated at 550 to 600 degrees and thereafter cooled is not disclosed.

The subject matters of claims11-14 are novel, since they are not disclosed in any of the prior art documents cited in the ISR.

In particular, the use of the aluminum pipe claimed1-4 for an inlet pipe or an outlet pipe of a heat exchanger is not disclosed.